

even authorize it in a time when nobody will disagree we are going to be close to a \$1.8 trillion deficit when we finish up in September 2009. Nobody is going to disagree with that point. We know the structural deficit is \$1.2 billion. We know we are going to spend \$400 billion of stimulus. And we know we are going to steal \$167 million from Social Security. Instead of us working on Social Security and trying to straighten it out, we are sitting here passing a parochial-based bill that in the long run for the country as a whole does not solve the major problems it faces. That is what it comes down to.

I know I won't come anywhere close to winning this vote, but every time in the future, as long as I am a Senator, we are going to take the time to debate. It is going to be painful, but we are going to debate it because the American people deserve to know what we are doing. And if it continues that the minority party in the greatest deliberative body in the world gets no amendments, then we are probably not going to do anything. There has been one amendment since July 16 in this body for a member of the minority that represents over half of the population in this country. This is not the greatest deliberative body in the world. This is the greatest chokehold body in the world.

We ought to have the right to offer amendments. If they are defeated, fine. What are we afraid of? We could have had the amendments done. We could have voted this bill on Friday. We could have had a time agreement and we wouldn't be here today or we could have been here actually doing something that is of massive importance to our long-term future. But we chose the politically expedient route, the politically expedient direction to the detriment of the future of this country.

There is a difference in thinking about the short term and the long term. We cannot ignore the short term, but it cannot be a priority anymore. It cannot be a priority. The long term has to be the priority. Our survival has to be the priority, not a political survival, not a parochial survival, but the very survival of this country.

So when we talk about what we are going to spend and how we are going to do it and we ignore the big issues that are in front of us because we are going to spend the time on the small issues, the country is getting the Senate it deserves.

It is time for us to refocus on the important issues in this country, and that is not our next election.

I yield back my time.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SANDERS). By unanimous consent, pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the

Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to S. 22, the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009.

Harry Reid, Jon Tester, Daniel K. Inouye, Robert Menendez, Ken Salazar, Jeff Bingaman, Robert P. Casey Jr., Mark L. Pryor, John F. Kerry, Richard Durbin, Ron Wyden, Dianne Feinstein, Ben Nelson, Evan Bayh, Thomas R. Carper, Carl Levin, Patrick J. Leahy.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call is waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the motion to proceed to S. 22, a bill to designate certain land as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System, to authorize certain programs and activities in the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture, and for other purposes, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BOND), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. BUNNING), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. ENSIGN), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. GREGG), the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KYL), the Senator from Florida (Mr. MARTINEZ), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER), and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VOINOVICH).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN), and the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. BUNNING) would have voted "nay."

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 66, nays 12, as follows:

#### [Rollcall Vote No. 1 Leg.]

#### YEAS—66

Akaka	Collins	Klobuchar
Barrasso	Conrad	Kohl
Baucus	Crapo	Landrieu
Bayh	Dodd	Lautenberg
Begich	Dorgan	Leahy
Bennett	Durbin	Levin
Bingaman	Enzi	Lieberman
Boxer	Feingold	Lincoln
Byrd	Feinstein	Lugar
Cantwell	Hagan	McCaskill
Cardin	Harkin	Menendez
Carper	Hatch	Merkley
Casey	Inouye	Mikulski
Clinton	Johnson	Murkowski
Cochran	Kerry	Murray

Nelson (FL)	Salazar	Udall (CO)
Nelson (NE)	Sanders	Udall (NM)
Pryor	Schumer	Warner
Reed	Shaheen	Webb
Reid	Snowe	Whitehouse
Risch	Stabenow	Wicker
Rockefeller	Tester	Wyden

#### NAYS—12

Brownback	Grassley	McCain
Coburn	Inhofe	Sessions
Corker	Isakson	Shelby
DeMint	Johanns	Thune

#### NOT VOTING—20

Alexander	Cornyn	Martinez
Biden	Ensign	McConnell
Bond	Graham	Roberts
Brown	Gregg	Specter
Bunning	Hutchison	Vitter
Burr	Kennedy	Voinovich
Chambliss	Kyl	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 66, the nays are 12. Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, the motion is agreed to.

The majority leader is recognized.

#### PROGRAM

Mr. REID. Mr. President, there will be no votes today and likely not tomorrow. We are waiting for President Bush and/or President-elect Obama as to what, if anything, they are going to do on TARP, and that is occurring as we speak. We are going to have a Democratic caucus at 2:45. I ask Democratic Senators to attend. That will be in the LBJ Room, S-207.

We are going to work with Senator COBURN to see if we have to be in all night. He has indicated—to staff, at least—that may not be the case, so we will work out a convenient time tomorrow. If Senator COBURN or others demand a simple majority vote, we can do that. We will work out a convenient time for everyone. That likely will occur tomorrow, but we hope people will not require that vote to take place. We will keep everyone advised as we proceed through the next 24 hours. I appreciate everyone's cooperation.

I am sorry about the Sunday schedule. We have a lot to do. We already are looking to moving toward the next matter, which is Lilly Ledbetter. We have SCHIP, and then, of course, we move to the big one, and that is the economic recovery package. We look forward to having all the input the Democrats and Republicans have asked.

Senator INOUE has been working on the appropriations part. There will be input from the committee and others. Senator BAUCUS has been working, as have other committee chairs, with the committees.

I think we are in decent shape now to move forward on other things.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The following message from the President of the United States was transmitted to the Senate by one of his secretaries: